# IHSS- Public Authority

"Supporting IHSS Clients and Providers"

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#### INTRODUCING THE PUBLIC AUTHORITY

## The Public Authority & IHSS

What is the Public Authority? What do they do? Both are very good questions. The San Bernardino County IHSS Public Authority is a new agency set up by the state of California to help administer cretin aspects of the IHSS program.

The Public Authority is a separate agency that will establish and maintain a provider and client Registry provide access to free training for both the client and provider and act as the employer of record for the purpose of union and county negotiations of wages and benefits for the providers.

The Public Authority's main goal is to match the skills of prescreened pro-viders to the needs of the IHSS clients.

Currently clients are responsible for finding their own providers and there is no screening process in place for providers.

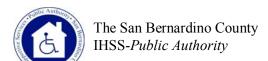
We are very excited to be offering clients a piece of mind. The screening process includes an application, ref-erence checks, face to face interviews, finger printing and a Department of Justice background check. All providers on the Registry will have completed all required screening.



### Join the Registry Today

By joining the Registry you can:

- Increase your work hours
- Maintain a flexible schedule
- Gain access to FREE training
- Call 1-866-985-6322



# Why Should I Join the Registry?

As a **Provider** you will gain access to prospective Clients who are looking for your particular skills and schedule.

As a *Client* you will gain access to pre-qualified Providers, within your geographical area, whose skills and schedule match your particular needs.

# How Do I Become a Registry Provider?

The first step is to complete a Registry Provider Application, which consists of:

- Basic Contact Information
- Work History
- Education and Experience
- Professional and Personal References
- Preferred hours and locations
- Preferences regarding Provider Qualifications

\*Public Authority Services are provided Free of Charge to Clients and Providers and does not change your current IHSS status as a client or provider.

# Types of Training

The Public Authority provides access to training for Providers and Clients.

**Examples of Training Topics Are:** 

- Coping with Alzheimer's, Dementia, and other Cognitive Impairments
- Mediation and Conflict Resolution
- Safe Methods for Moving, Lifting, and Transferring
- Learning to Communicate Effectively
- Learning to Manage the Provider Interview
- Problem Solving Techniques
- Self-Advocacy Training



You can help prevent burnout by:

- Joining a caregiver support group: Check the newspaper or local library to locate one in your area. Sharing experiences with others can help you manage stress and locate resources.
- Take time for yourself.

Arrange regular time to take a break from your caregiving responsibilities. Remember, it's important to keep up your own interests and activities as much as possible.

### Points of Interest

Who Are the Caregivers?

Most older persons with long-term care needs—65%—rely exclusively on family and friends to provide assistance. Another 30% will supplement family care with assistance from paid providers.

Care provided by family and friends can determine whether older persons can remain at home. In fact, 50% of the elderly who have a long-term care need but no family available to care for them are in nursing homes, while only 7% who have a family caregiver are in institutional settings.

#### **Poets Corner**

Poetry for caregiver, by caregivers

#### The Caregivers Angel

Angels come in many forms, and each one serves the Lord.

They teach us lessons of His love and bring His Holy Word

From Heaven unto Earth they fly and whisper in our ears songs of everlasting joy to last us through the years

So when you hear the whistling wind play music in the air, remember there's an angel singing songs for those who care. By Paul Dammann

#### State and Federal

**BILLS TO WATCH** 

Though many states continue to face economic challenges, we applaud those that are forging ahead and working towards creating real solutions that will make real differences in the lives of caregivers. In 2003, already 19 states have introduced legislation that would either explicitly or implicitly assist caregivers. In general, the legislation listed below does not include annual appropriations measures, unless significantly new funding or program development is included in the proposal. Included for each state is a link to the home page of the state legislature where you can use the website search engine to get legislative information.



**A.B. 1523** The California legislature is currently considering A.B. 1523, which creates a \$1,000 tax credit for long-term care needs or long-term care insurance coverage for a family member.

For more information visit the California Legislature website at: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov

# 2003 Caregiver Friendly Awards® are Announced

Caregiver Friendly Awards® are designed to celebrate programs, products, services, books and media created with the needs of caregivers in mind. Below are some of the 2003 winners

#### **SERVICES**

**Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Online**The University of Florida

ElderIssues.com Elder Issues, LLC

**Griswold Special Care**Griswold Special Care

The HDIS service model HDIS

**Mobile Medical Industries** MMI

#### **PRODUCTS**

**Depend® Refastenable Underwear** Kimberly-Clark, Inc

Turning Automotive Seating
Bruno Independent Living Aids, Inc.

**Airlift Toileting System** Mobility, Inc

Oral Care Kit
Specialized Care Company

The ResponseLink POM 1000 System ResponseLink

CareSharing Newsletter Senior Care, Overlake Hospital

#### **MEDIA**

And Thou Shalt Honor Aquarius Videos

The Educated Caregiver Lifeview Resources

**Circle of Caregiving**Kansas Area Agencies on Aging Association

Public Relations Program Home Instead Senior Care

Medicare Basics
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Sit & Be Fit
Caregivers Guide to Exercise

Patientlinx.com MDLinx. Inc.

Caring For Mom & Dad Prevention Magazine

What's Love Got To Do With It? WGBH Radio

#### **BOOKS**

**Sharing a Journey to Wellness** David and Marion Gardner

Aging America Resource Guide Aging America Resources

Blessed Are The Caregivers Hartman Publishing Inc.

**Hard Questions... Simple Answers** CareGiving Solutions

The Gifts of Caregiving Fairview Press